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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 FRANKFURT 006687

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR G/TIP

SENSITIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KCRM](#) [KWMN](#) [SMIG](#) [PGOV](#) [GM](#)

SUBJECT: NGO Initiatives to Reduce Demand for Trafficked Persons

REF: A) FRANKFURT 3004, B) BERLIN 0692, C) STATE 89010

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1. (SBU) SUMMARY: Lutheran Church and other NGOs in southwestern Germany report progress in increasing Germans' awareness of the issue of trafficking in persons (TIP), particularly among potential clients of prostitutes. There are indications that more men are contacting police and NGOs to report suspected TIP cases. Building on successful awareness-raising during World Lutheran Day in Hannover, NGOs in the region are planning new demand reduction initiatives including a high-profile campaign for the 2006 Soccer World Championships in Germany -- although they report that funding remains tight and complain that terrorism continues to draw police resources away from TIP. Nonetheless, law enforcement officials reiterated their commitment to fighting TIP. END SUMMARY.

2. (U) The Consul General and U.S. law enforcement representatives highlighted the TIP issue during recent meetings with senior Hesse and Baden-Wuerttemberg authorities. Consulate staff have also met recently with a number of NGO contacts.

Baden-Wuerttemberg NGOs Report Progress in Awareness Campaigns

3. (SBU) In our meeting with NGOs in Baden-Wuerttemberg (B-W), the Diakonisches Werk (DW) and the Women's Information Center (Frauensinformationzentrum/FIZ) reported progress in increasing awareness of TIP among potential clients of prostitutes (ref A). In May, Diakonisches Werk and FIZ organized a program on TIP in conjunction with World Lutheran Day in Hannover (the German Protestant Church's largest annual gathering) at which an estimated thousand attendees heard about TIP. The FIZ used the occasion to distribute materials on TIP and is planning broader outreach efforts (ref A). An NGO representative told a Consulate representative that while it is difficult to measure success, there are indications that more men are contacting police and NGOs to report suspected TIP cases. NGOs reported funding, however, is very tight; outreach will focus on flyers and a web site (under construction) with limited paid advertising. Stuttgart NGOs will take part in a nationwide TIP awareness campaign during the 2006 soccer World Cup (see below) and plan to approach local soccer stars for endorsements and statements to boost awareness of TIP.

4. (SBU) Diakonisches Werk and FIZ representatives complained that terrorism draws police attention from TIP and called for more frequent and aggressive prosecutions in Baden-Wuerttemberg. In some other parts of Germany, NGOs benefit from funds confiscated during raids against organized crime. Diakonisches Werk and FIZ would like to see that practice followed in Baden-Wuerttemberg. The FIZ voiced concern over the growing involvement of women in recruiting TIP victims and concern over insufficient protection of women once they return to countries of origin. At a meeting on August 3, B-W Interior Minister Heribert Rech told the CG and U.S. law enforcement representatives that the state had recently established a task force on TIP, reaffirming the issue's importance.

Hesse: Looking for Funds and Planning for World Cup 2006

5. (U) Consul General also reemphasized USG interest in TIP at a recent meeting with senior Hesse law enforcement authorities in Frankfurt. At the meeting, Hesse Interior Minister Volker Bouffier reiterated his support in the fight against TIP.

6. (SBU) At the State of Hesse's biannual roundtable on human trafficking (attended by a Consulate representative), NGOs reported that while prosecutions are on the rise in Frankfurt, the NGO "Franka" from Kassel said police in rural North Hesse should become more aggressive in enlisting witnesses to prosecute. At that roundtable and subsequent one-on-one meetings, women's NGOs recognized the tight budget situation, but said the state of Hesse should devote more resources to awareness campaigns and victim assistance.

7. (SBU) The Frankfurt-based NGO "Women's Rights are Human Rights" (Frauenrecht ist Menschenrecht / FIM) -- one of Germany's leading NGOs on TIP issues -- is leading a network of a dozen NGOs that plan to canvass Germany's twelve World Cup venues in

conjunction with the FIFA Soccer World Cup in summer 2006. With slogans such as "Red Card against Forced Prostitution" and "Men Bear Responsibility / Men Can Help", the campaign will include billboards, flyers, and other advertising (in multiple languages) to raise awareness among potential clients. FIM chairperson Elvira Niesner praised Frankfurt police and city officials for their cooperation. She said, however, the campaign needs critical seed funding and FIM plans to approach World Cup sponsor companies for support. By highlighting the issue of forced prostitution at this high-profile event, they hope to make a lasting impact on TIP awareness.

BODDE